

department of
HORTICULTURE

**PROFESSIONAL GARDENER LEVEL 2
 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT PROGRAM (PGL 2)**
(Formerly Lead Gardener - LGC)

This comprehensive program leads to a rewarding career as a senior horticulturist, project manager, estate gardener, grounds department supervisor or business owner. The program emphasizes solid plantsmanship, science-based gardening techniques, along with sustainability, planning and quality at all levels of work. Learn what it takes to meet and exceed standards of horticultural excellence.

Who Should Participate

- Aspiring horticulture professionals
- Gardeners, landscape maintenance workers, other horticulturists and landscape architects seeking professional development

Program Design

After completing Botany 1 all remaining core courses may be taken in any order, providing there are no further prerequisites. For a certificate, a grade of at least 70 percent must be earned for each course. All requirements must be completed within seven years of the start date of your first course in the program. You can prove proficiency for up to 20 percent of the coursework by passing proficiency exams or providing college transcripts indicating grades of at least 70 percent for similar courses.

There is no separate enrollment for the program. Just take your first course and you are on your way. Please contact Amelia Simmons-Hurt at (847) 835-8293 or school@chicagobotanic.org if you have questions or comments about the program or courses.

PGL 2 REQUIRED COURSES	PREREQUISITES
Botany 1(B)	None
Botany 2 (I)	Botany 1
All OPC core courses	Botany 1
Gardening Techniques: Session A (I)	Botany 1
Gardening Techniques: Session B(I)	Botany 1
Gardening Techniques: Session C (I)	Botany 1
Gardening Techniques: Session D (I)	Botany 1
Hardscape Basics (I)	Botany 1
Plant Health 1 (I)	Botany 1
Plant Health 2 (A)	Botany 1, Botany 2
Soils and Water (I)	Botany 1
Project Basics (I)	Botany 1
Planting Design (A)	Botany 1, 4 OPC core courses, Project Basics (A)
Project Management (A)	Botany 1, 6 OPC Core Courses, Planting Design
Guided Industry Experience (A)	Approval of program coordinator